

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions.

1-17. (CANCELED).

18. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A method of identifying a human subject having an increased likelihood of having an increased physiologicallarger mean arterial pressure rises in response to psychological stress, wherein said physiological response is increased blood pressure, comprising detecting the presence of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele in the human subject, wherebyin the presencedetection of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele in the human subject identifies the human subject as having an increased likelihood of having an increased physiologicallarger mean arterial pressure rises in response to psychological stress, as compared to human subjects homozygous for the short allele.

19. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A method of identifying a human subject having an increased likelihood of developing a cardiovascular disease in response to an increased physiologicalhaving larger mean arterial pressure rises in response to psychological stress, wherein said physiological response is increased blood pressure, comprising detecting the presence of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele in the human subject, wherebyin the presencedetection of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele in the human subject identifies the human subject as having an increased likelihood of an increased physiologicalhaving larger mean arterial pressure rises in response to psychological stress and thereby as having an increased likelihood of developing a cardiovascular disease in response to an increased physiologicalhaving larger mean arterial pressure rises in response to psychological stress, as compared to human subjects homozygous for the short allele.

20-22. (CANCELED).

23. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The method of claim 19, wherein the cardiovascular disease is hypertension.

24. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The method of claim 19, wherein the cardiovascular disease is coronary heart disease.

25. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The method of claim 19, wherein the cardiovascular disease is stroke.

26. **(CANCELED).**